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CLAIM LISTING WITH AMENDMENTS

1. (Previously Presented) A composition for topical application to an animal subject comprising:

- a topical vehicle;
- at least one irritant ingredient contained in an amount capable of inducing skin irritation in said subject;
- an anti-irritant amount of aqueous-soluble divalent calcium cation in a concentration of at least about 1.8% by weight; and
- at least one aqueous-ionizable counter-anionic species.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 comprising calcium cation in a concentration of from about 1.8% to about 17.6% by weight.

5. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 comprising calcium cation in a concentration of from about 4.4% to about 8.8% by weight.

Claim 6 (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 comprising an amount of calcium cation capable of inhibiting mean cumulative skin irritation attributable to said irritant ingredient in a susceptible human population by at least about 20% upon topical application of said composition, wherein said inhibition of skin irritation represents an average reduction in at least one of sting, burn and itching in a susceptible human population upon topical application of said composition as compared to the level of irritation induced in said population upon topical application of a control formulation containing said at least one irritant ingredient in a vehicle without said calcium cation.

Claims 8-9 (Canceled)

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10. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said composition is a cosmetic product.
11. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10 wherein said composition comprises an irritant ingredient selected from the group consisting of skin exfoliant, skin peel and skin cell renewal agent.
12. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10 wherein said irritant ingredient is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acids, keto acids, α -hydroxy acids, β -hydroxy acids, retinoids, peroxides, organic alcohols, and combinations thereof.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises lactic acid or a salt thereof.
14. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises glycolic acid or a salt thereof.
15. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises salicylic acid or a salt thereof.
16. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises a combination of lactic acid and salicylic acid, or salts thereof.
17. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises capryloyl salicylic acid or a salt thereof.
18. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises citric acid or a salt thereof.

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19. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient is a retinoid selected from tretinoin, retinol, retinal and derivatives thereof.
20. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises benzoyl peroxide.
21. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises acetic acid or a salt thereof.
22. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises one or more of the group consisting of 1-pyrrolidone-5-carboxylic acid, capryloyl salicylic acid, α -hydroxy decanoic acid, α -hydroxy octanoic acid, gluconolactone, methoxypropyl gluconamide, oxalic acid, malic acid, tartaric acid, mandelic acid, benzylic acid, gluconic acid, pyruvic acid and phenol.
23. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 12 wherein said irritant ingredient comprises trichloroacetic acid or a salt thereof.
24. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the pH of the composition is in the range of 1 to 6.
25. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the pH of the composition is in the range of 3 to 5.
- Claims 26-54 (Canceled)
55. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein said aqueous-ionizable counter-anion species includes nitrate.

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Claim 56 (Canceled)

57. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein said aqueous-ionizable counter-anion species includes a halogen selected from chloride and fluoride anions.

58. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 further comprising at least one additional anti-irritant agent.

Claims 59-60 (Canceled)

61. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 58 wherein said additional agent is selected from the group consisting of potassium channel mediating, regulating or blocking agents, calcium channel blocking or regulatory agents, sodium channel blocking agents, steroids, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, aloe vera, chamomile, α -bisabolol, Cola nitida extract, green tea extract, tea tree oil, licorice extract, allantoin, urea, caffeine and other xanthines, glycyrrhizic acid and its derivatives, and combinations thereof.

62. (Withdrawn) A composition for inhibiting skin irritation in an animal subject comprising an anti-irritant amount of aqueous-soluble divalent calcium cation and a topical vehicle.

63. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 comprising calcium cation in a concentration of from about 10 mM to about 3000 mM.

64. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 comprising calcium cation in a concentration of from about 50 mM to about 2000 mM.

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65. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 comprising calcium cation in a concentration of from about 100 mM to about 1000 mM.
66. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 comprising calcium cation in a concentration of from about 250 mM to about 500 mM.
67. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 wherein said inhibition of skin irritation represents a reduction in skin irritation attributable to a pre-existing human skin disease or skin irritation condition.
68. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 67 wherein said inhibition of skin irritation represents a reduction in skin irritation attributable to a pre-existing human skin disease or skin irritation condition.
69. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 wherein said skin irritation is ocular irritation.

Claims 70-76 (Canceled)

77. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 67 wherein said skin irritation is attributable to exposure to an irritating chemical agent.
78. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 77 wherein said irritating chemical agent exposure is attributable to application of a topical product.
79. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 78 wherein said product is selected from the group consisting of antiperspirant, deodorant, sunscreen, tanning, sunburn treatment, insect repellant, exfoliant, skin peel, skin cell renewal, fragrance, shaving or hair removal, hair care or hair treatment, cleanser, astringent, toner, rinse, serum, masks, facial cosmetic, cream, lotion, moisturizer, soap, detergent, and topical drug products.

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80. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 78 wherein said composition is packaged with instructions directing administration of said composition before, with or following administration of said topical product.

Claims 81-83 (Canceled)

84. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 comprising an amount of calcium cation capable of inhibiting said skin irritation in subjects experiencing the same by an average of at least about 20%.

85. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 comprising an amount of calcium cation capable of inhibiting said skin irritation by at least about 40% in at least 10% of the subjects experiencing the same.

Claims 86-97 (Canceled)

98. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 further comprising at least one second anti-irritant agent.

99. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 98 wherein said second agent is selected from the group consisting of potassium channel mediating, regulating or blocking agents, calcium channel blocking or regulatory agents, sodium channel blocking agents, steroids, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, aloe vera, chamomile, α -bisabolol, Cola nitida extract, green tea extract, tea tree oil, licorice extract, allantoin, urea, caffeine and other xanthines, and glycyrrhizic acid and its derivatives.

100. (Withdrawn) A method for inhibiting skin irritation associated with an irritant ingredient contained in an applied topical formulation, comprising topically administering to an animal subject the composition of claim 1.

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101. (Withdrawn) A method for inhibiting skin irritation in an animal subject comprising topically administering to the subject the composition of claim 62.
102. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said composition is administered within about three hours prior to application to the subject of a second topical formulation containing an irritant ingredient.
103. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said composition is administered substantially simultaneously with application to the subject of a second topical formulation containing an irritant ingredient.
104. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said composition is administered to inhibit skin irritation attributable to a pre-existing animal skin disease or skin irritation condition.
105. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said skin irritation is ocular irritation.
106. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said skin irritation is respiratory system irritation.
107. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said skin irritation is gastro-intestinal system irritation.
108. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said skin irritation is reproductive system irritation.
109. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said skin irritation is irritation of a mucous membrane.

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110. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said skin irritation is irritation of epidermal skin.

111. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 101 wherein said skin irritation is irritation of dermal skin.

112. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 104 wherein said skin irritation is attributable to environmental exposure to one or more of sunlight, low humidity, wind, cold temperature, or hot and humid conditions.

113. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 104 wherein said skin irritation is attributable to exposure to an irritating chemical agent.

114. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 104 wherein said skin irritation is attributable to one or more of shaving, skin cleansing or bathing, and physical skin trauma.

115. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein pH of the composition is in the range of 2 to 4.

116. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said at least one aqueous-ionizable counter-anionic species comprises an inorganic anion selected from nitrate, sulfate, halogen, carbonate, bicarbonate, hydroxide, oxide, peroxide, nitrite, sulfide, bisulfate, persulfate, glycerophosphate, hypophosphate, borate and titanate anions.

117. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said at least one aqueous-ionizable counter-anionic species comprises an organic anion selected from carboxylic acids, alkoxylates, amino acids, peptides, saturated and unsaturated organic acids, and saturated and unsaturated fatty acids.

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118. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said at least one aqueous-ionizable counter-anionic species comprises an organic anion selected from a citrate, oxalate, acetate, gluconate, lactate, tartrate, maleate, benzoate, propionate, salicylate, ascorbate, formate, succinate, folinate, aspartate, phthalate, oleate, palmitate, stearate, lauryl sulfate, lanolate, myristate, behenate, caseinate, cyclamate, pantothenate, EDTA and other polyaminopolycarboxylates, saccharin, thioglycolate, laurate, methylparaben, propylparaben, ricinoleate and sorbate anions.

119. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, comprising a salt of the aqueous-soluble divalent calcium cation and the at least one aqueous-ionizable counter-anionic species.